Coddington Family

Coddington Family Among Early Community Settlers

Trib-Star 8/22/1971

INDIANA ROOM

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Many early pioneer families came to Terre Haute and the neighboring vicinity for a period of years and then moved on to other communities. When this happened, very often their accomplishments and contributions to our community were either forgotten or lost to written history. Just such a family was the Coddington family, whose descendant, W. Wendell Fye, of Mt. Carmel, Ill., was kind enough to give me photostatic copies of his family history.

The Coddington family goes back to Archibald Coddington (1756-1822), a private in the New York Militia during the Revolutionary War, and his wife, Mary Coon. The youngest of their family of 12 children, Isaac Vantyle Coddington was born in Somerset County, New Jersey, in 1803. His parents were the earliest settlers of that county.

Isaac V. Coddington became a blacksmith and skilled iron worker. After the death of his parents he married Phoebe Ruckman in 1824, and with his growing family moved to a farm near Terre Haute in 1832 and into town two years later, where he remained until 1845.

The move from Union Village, near Valley Forge in New Jersey, to Terre Haute, Ind., was a major undertaking in 1832. At that time, when railroads were unknown, it was a long and tedious journey in wagons, occupying six weeks in going across the wild country.

When Asbury Chapel was erected, Isaac V. Coddington was one of the building committee. His responsibility was to provide the elements for Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Many pioneer settlers here remembered seeing him on the morning of communion Sabbath on his way to church with the bread and wine.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

All that remains of Asbury Chapel today is the stone with the name carved on it which was taken from the Fourth and Poplar site to the new church at Seventh and Poplar. Now that Methodist Temple is no more, the stone was again taken from the razed church. It was planned to give it to the Vigo County Historical Society's Museum for safe keeping, but the old stone disintegrated into small fragments.

Mr. Fye's grandfather, Stephen R. Coddington, was born in Union Village, New Jersey, in 1829, and came with his parents to Indiana when only three years old. Stephen made the best use of such educational opportunities as came to young men of that day here in Terre Haute, and by close reading and observation he became a man well qualified for life and business.

On Feb. 5, 1855, he married Miss Louisa J. Hinkle at Carlisle, Ind. She was born in Sullivan, County, the daughter of Rev. Nathan Hinkle, Methodist Episcopal minister. The young couple lived on a farm near Linton, Ind., and proceeded to raise a family of 10 children.

In May, 1865, the Coddingtons left Terre Haute and went to Mattoon, Ill. Stephen

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Coddington

Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

established himself in the lumber business there with his partner for 23 years, B. C. Hinkle. Stephen and Louisa Coddington died in Mattoon and were buried in the Dodge Grove Cemetery, he at the age of 69 years, she at the age of 72 years.

The previously mentioned Rev. Nathan Hinkle was born in North Carolina in 1799. In 1808 he moved to Jefferson County, Kentucky, where he grew to manhood. In 1819 he moved to Sullivan County, Indiana, he remained until 1865, when he moved to Mattoon, Ill. with his daughter, Louisa Hinkle Coddington.

Rev. Nathan Hinkle married Miss Elizabeth (Betesia) Reid of Jefferson County, Kentucky, in 1825. She died in Sullivan County in 1863. They had 13 children.

Rev. Nathan Hinkle joined the M. E. Church in 1815, was licensed to preach in 1832, was ordained a deacon in 1844, and was ordained an elder in 1852 at Bloomington, Ind. He passed away in 1870 and is buried in Mattoon, with his daughter's family.

Anyone having knowledge of a pioneer family who lived in Terre Haute or vicinity for any length of time, whether they continued to be identified with this area or another, are invited to get in touch with the writer. From 1832 to 1865 in 33 years, a long span in anyone's lifetime, so the Coddington family were a part of the Terre Haute community before becoming identified with the Mattoon community for another three decades.

PAMPHLET FILE

Coddington Family

LOCAL HISTORY

Vigo County Public Library

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Biography of Isaac Vanleer Codington
Grandfather of Andrew C. Frye.

The fathers, how very few of them are left among us. We might suppose that another race has come up and taken places. a race that are unlike the fathers. more feeble and effenate, Less able to Endure. And I have thought less willing to do. If we go back 50 or 75 years in the history of beloved Methodism. We shall see a race of heroes, compared with whome the present generation are as a generation of dwarfs, phisicaly and morally, Intellectualy there has been progress and advancement. We have degenerated phisicaly from varyus causes, The labour saveing machinery of the age has taken in a large degree, the place of hand labour the consquence is there is not the same development of muscle, & bone, Steem has taken place of muscle, And the mode of living is so different. Luctheries have taken the place of sold holsome foods, But I do not intend to write an Esay upon any of these points, or at length to compare the past and the present. But when I take up the live and character of one like that of Brother Codington. It is impsible to do him justices as a man and Christian. without refference to the Times influences surrounding him in his early life. These had much to do in the development of the man, and in the formation and molding of his character, both as a man and a Christian. Brother Codington was born in Summerset County New Jersey in 1803. His parents were natives of the same state. They were among the earlest Settlers of that county. The country was new. And it was by hard labour with there own hands that the forest was cleared away, fields were opened and harvests were planted and gathered. It was all don by hand. long before the days of check rowers and corn planters drils for Smaller grains. Yarning loading was therefore

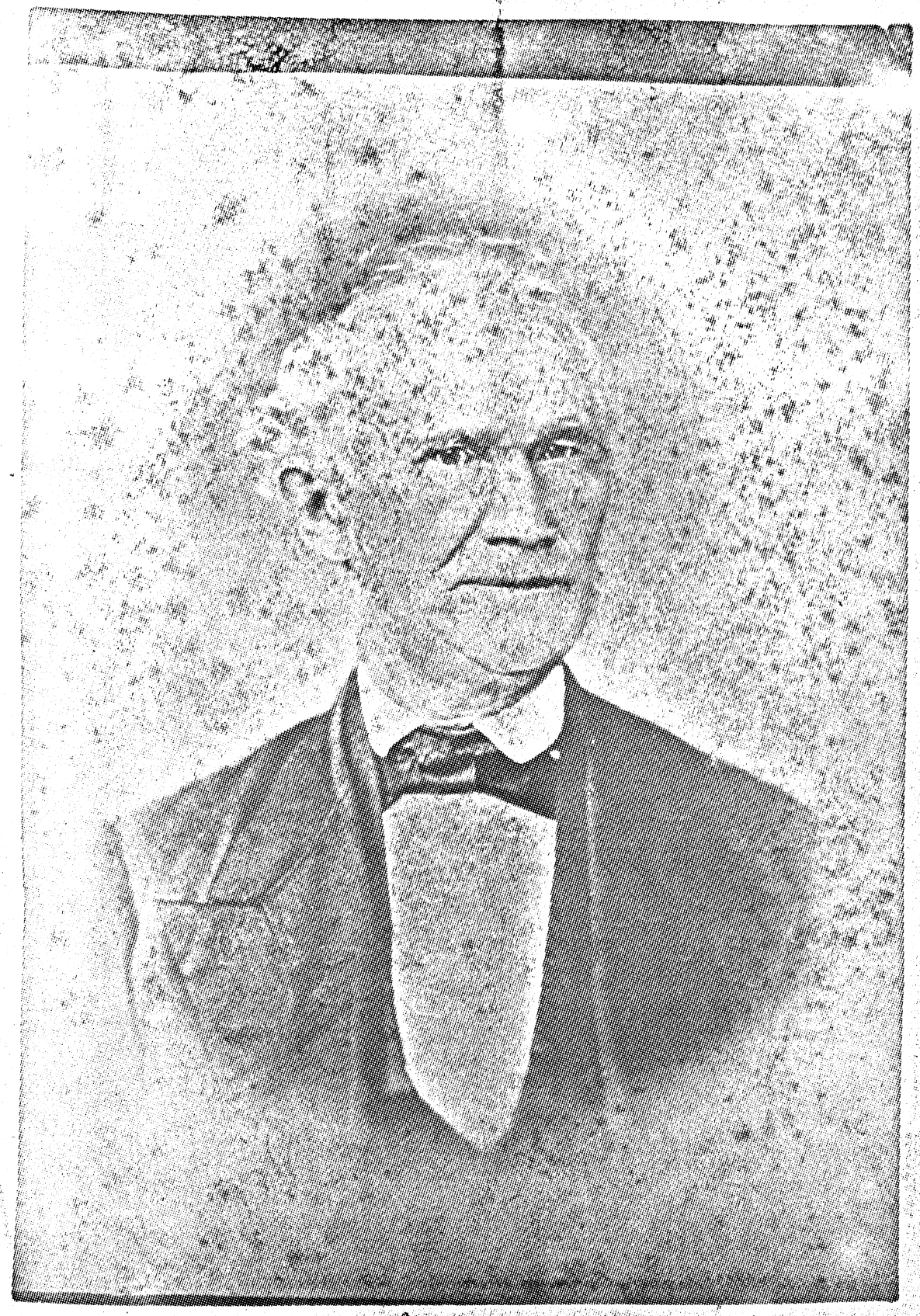
Trained to labour with his own hands. This gave him a strong vigors phisical frame and constitution. In those days it was no disgrace for a young man to labour. The country being new, the opertunities for acquiring an education wer very limited especialy in the higher branches. Such opertunities as the country afford were appreciated and improved by young Codington. So that he acquired a very fare Englis he education. I am not informed as to the exact age when he learned the Black Smiths trade. At any rate he became a skillful worker in iron. He was of that cast of mind that what ever he attempted to learn, he learned thouraly. He always acted upon the principal that what ever was worth doing, was was worth doing well, and there was in him that laudable Ambition not only to succeed but to excel in what ever he attempted to do. As a farmer or mechanic or merchant, he was a success. He was know as a reliable man, every where he could be relyed upon. Strictly honest saving and industrous. He was at times and in fact we may say generaly prosperous in busines. until in later life he has had reverses. but this has not been by his own mismanagement. so much as the mismanagement of others too whom he intrusted his means. In this remark I do not intend the censure of any one. But it dos look hard to see an old man. deprived in old age, of the earnings of a manly life that he had accumulated for a stay support in the decline of life.

Brother Codingtons parents were deeply pious and religous. They were members of what was known as the Methodist Church. Hence his Moral and religous culture was not not neglected. His Mother I have been told was a very devoted christian woman. A one who was

a woman of grate faith and much prayer. The influence of such a mother will tell for good upon the character of her sons. I believe there are no prayers so sirtin to be answered as the prayers of a mother for her children. Brother Codington parents during the latter part of there lives were members of the Babtist Church. Bro was the youngest of 12 children. Of whome there are but 4 with himself yet living. He was about 20 years of age before He knew anything of the people called Methodist. Occationaly a Methodist would preach in the neighborhood But it was principly throug the instrumentality of a young lady by the name of Phoebe Buckingham Zeeby Buckingham. That a Society was organised and that regular preach was established in the neighborhood. This young lady afterward became the wife of brother Codington. When She was quite a young girl She went to visit some relitives in New York. On arriveing at her uncles, I think it was. She learned that they were Methodist. Such were her prejudices that She was on the eve of returning home immediately, But was finely perswaded to remain for a short time. And with her relitives attended Methodist preaching. She became awakened and was converted and united with the M E Church. On returning to her home in New Jersey She meet with her parents were strong Babtist. But opposition only made her all the more firm in the step She had taken. She finely gained the consent of her parents to invite a methodist preacher to preach at there house. Soon a class was formed and regular preaching estal lished. This young lady in her influence in the community was like a burning torch. She was instrumental in the conversion

of many Souls. When brother Ecklington was about 20 years of age. Befor he was convirted took an active part in the Erection of the first M E Church that was built in that part of the Country. He went into the woods with Ox and aided in geting out the Timbers- It was called Mount Mored Church The origon house has long since been replaced by a more substancial edifice, which still bares the same name When Isac was 19 years old his father died, which made a deep and lasting impresion on his mind. It was not however until some years after that, that he was convirted and united with the M E Church, Under the joint ministry of David Best and Abner Huggins, In 1824 on the 2 day of September He was united in Marrage to Miss Feeby Buckingham. The young lady of whome we have already Spoken, As Methodist they had much to contend with. The name Methodist was regarded as a Synonim for every thing vile and mean, But puting there trust in God they never wavered. In 1832 He with his family moved west and Settled near the City of Lafayett Indiana where He remained for about two years, When he moved into the City where he remaind until 1845, Shortly after Settling in the City, He was appointed Steward and Trustee, He was also a leador. When Asbury Chapel was Erected He was one of the building Comity, While living in the City Parish. It generaly his duty to provide the Elements for Sacrement of the Lords Supper. Many that yet live in the City remember to have seen him on the morning of Communion Sabbath on his way to the Church with the bread and wine, and with his own hands unfolding

CODDINGTON, HINKLE families



Grandfather Isaac V. Coddington
(L. C. F.)

S. R. CODDINGTON.

A Pioneer Passes Away—The Funeral Services Held at the M. E. Church Sunday Afternoon.

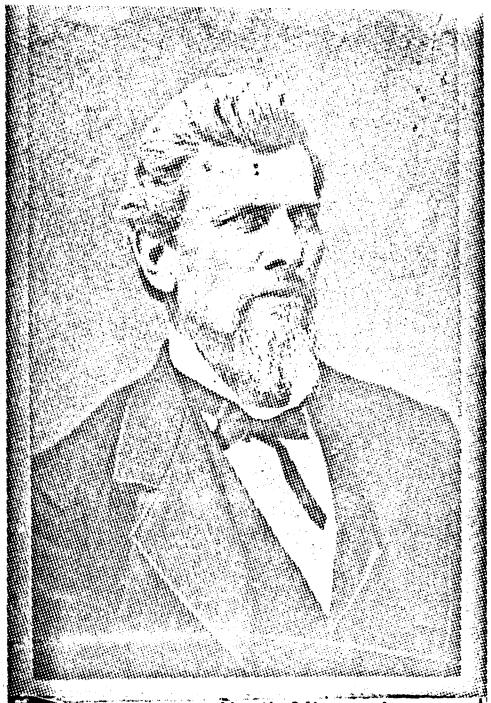
Stephen R. Coddington was born in Union Village, N. J., May 14, 1829. This was near and perhaps Valley Forge itself, a place historic in the war of the revolution. When about three years of age his parents moved to Terre Haute, Ind. At that time, when railroads were unknown, it was a long and tedious journey in wagons, occupying six weeks in going across this wild country. At Terre Haute the lad grew to manhood and established a reputation for being an upright and careful young man in all his dealings with others.

At twenty-six years of age, Feb. 6, 1855, he was married to Miss Louise J. Hinkle, with whom he lived a happy life to the day of his death. To them were born ten children. Of these four are dead. There survive Mrs. O. C. Robertson, of Decatur, Mrs. P. B. Linn, Mrs. W. E. Fye and Miss Nellie Coddington, of Mattoon; Mrs. J. F. Lytle, of Topeka, Kan., Mr. C. D. Coddington, of Butte, Mont.

With these his long loved wife, brother and other dear friends are left to mourn the loss of a faithful brother, loved husband and tender father.

Having lived his youth in the pioneer days of the west, he spent the rest of his days in its growing prosperity. In 1865 he came to Mattoon, then quite a village, and formed a partnership in the lumber business with B. C. Hinkle. This partnership lasted twenty-three years, during which time he accumulated some property, upon which he was enabled to live in comparative ease the remainder of his life. In this connection he was not only active and energetic but so conducted himself with men as to show an amiable and pleasant disposition with all. And to prove himself a just and upright man, never being known to use unkind or unpleasant words in his dealings. It is said of him that he had no enemies, and was loved and esteemed by all who knew him. These qualities were recognized by the people so that he was honored with an official position on the school board, in the city council, and at the time of his death was president of the National Building and Loan Association of this city. He was always a careful man and made a good public servant, one in whom the public reposed confidence.

His declining years have certainly been peaceful ones, as he has been surrounded by his loving children and grand children, all of whom have been kind to him and have tried to make his life a pleasant one. His extensive acquaintance with outside people, and his well-known business ability always made his company desirable, and at no time was he in danger of being forgotten by a sometimes forgetful public.



As a pioneer Mr. Coddington's memory will always be cherished by the younger generation, the one that can know the cares of the preceding one which struggles to make this the garden spot of the world; but it can do reverence to the memories of the honored dead, and see that flowers are ever kept green upon the graves, as a token of the recollection stored in the head and heart. Of this representative class of people, Mr. Coddington was an honored member.

He was converted and became a member of the Methodist church when about 16 years of age, since which time he has endeavored to lead a christian life, and for years was an honored member of the business bodies of the church, at which he was a faithful attendant and showed wisdom in their council of the affairs of the church.

He was, as a boy, always full of life but never lost any of his character as a strictly moral boy and in his early days in the church he led a pure life and was strict in his religious duties, being through youth and down to a late period of life an earnest worker in the Sunday school.

From the first in his last sickness he was conscious of approaching death and was prepared for the change. A few hours before speech left him he repeated the Lord's prayer and then said

"Happy day that fixed my choice
On thee my Savior and my God."

A hymn which doubtless was one of the familiar ones at the time of his conversion. Then in a very peaceful way he said "Lord, I commend my soul to Thee" He died at 3 o'clock a. m. Friday, Febuary 18.

The funeral service took place at the M. E. church, at 2 p. m., Sunday, Feb. 20th; the sermon being delivered by W. S. Hooper, a former pastor, 1st Cor., XV: 53 Rev D. W. English, D. D., the present pastor, Rev. I. H. Aldrich and Rev. Dr. Morton, of the Presbyterian church assisted in the service. The congregation was very large, marked feature of which was the great number of young and old people, showing the great respect shown by all classes.

The floral decorations were very beautiful. Numbers of them were from loving friends of Chicago; but the most notable were white carnations from his grandsons, Paul and Eugene Robertson, of Decatur, who being sick in bed were unable to be present.

The family have the earnest sympathy of all the people.

Died Feb. 18, 1898. Aged 69 Years.

Funeral Notice.

The funeral services of

Stephen R. Coddington

will take place from the M. E. Church,

Sunday, February 20th, 1898,

at 2 p. m.

Interment at Dodge Grove Cemetery.

Friends wishing to view the remains will call

at the residence between

the hours of 2 p. m. Saturday

and 1 p. m. Sunday.

S. R. Coddington

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

FOUNDED A. D. 1784.

QUARTERLY TICKET, Jan 5 1862

J. E. Allison Minister.

He looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.—Heb. xi, 10.

By faith we already behold
That lovely Jerusalem here:
Her walls are of jasper and gold,
As crystal her buildings are clear.

Coddington.—Stephen R. Coddington was born in Union Village, N. J., May 14, 1829. When he was about three years of age his parents moved to Terre Haute, Ind. They were Christians and devoted to the interests of the Church in that then new country. Stephen made the best use of such educational opportunities as came to young men of that day, and by close reading and observation he became a man well qualified for life and business, with broad plans for doing good. On Feb. 5, 1855, he married Miss Louisa J. Hinckle, with whom he lived happily in a Christian home until he died, Feb. 18, 1898, in Mattoon, Ills. The cause of Christ and the good of the Church had a large place in all his plans. He came to Mattoon in 1865, and established himself in business. His liberality and devotion did much to make our Church in Mattoon what it now is. The end of such a man is peace. He came to the last scenes of life in the full possession of all of his powers, and talked and advised freely with his family and friends, saying as his last words. "Lord, I command my soul to thee!"

D. W. ENGLISH.

MRS. LOUISA CODDINGTON PASSES FROM EARTH SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

HAD BEEN INVALID FOR MANY YEARS

Woman of Rare Force of Character and Christian Gentleness—Leaves Large Number of Descendants.

Surrounded by her beloved children and relatives, Mrs. Louisa Hinkle Coddington, a woman of rare attainments and high Christian character, passed from earth to her eternal reward at 4:40 Saturday afternoon at the family home, 2700 Prairie avenue, which she had occupied over forty years.

The end was peaceful, in consonance with the life of usefulness and self denial which the heroic soul had practiced. Mrs. Coddington, although an invalid for nearly thirteen years, was conscious until six hours before the final summons came. Until then she recognized all about her bedside and spoke words of cheer and consolation to the bereaved relatives.

Clergyman's Daughter.

Mrs. Coddington was born 72 years ago in Sullivan county, Indiana. She was the daughter of Rev. Nathan Hinkle, a pioneer Methodist Episcopal clergyman. In 1855 she was married to Stephen R. Coddington at Carlisle, Ind., and they removed to Linton, Ind., where they lived on a farm.

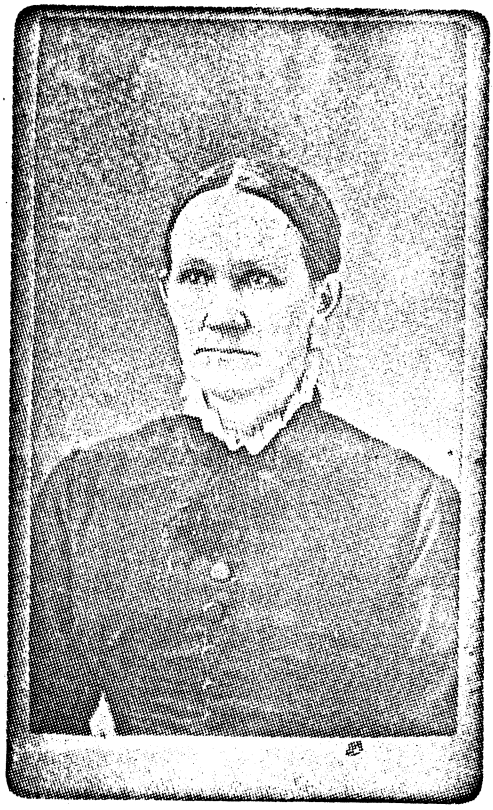
In May, 1865, the family removed to Mattoon. Mr. Coddington embarked in the lumber business. The family became prominently identified and Mrs. Coddington was especially interested in church and philanthropic work. She was converted in the M. E. church when a child.

Stricken With Paralysis.

Thirteen years ago, or nearly so, she was stricken with paralysis and ever since was deprived of the use of a greater part of her body. In this trying position the true greatness of the woman was displayed. Adjusting herself to changed conditions, she made home as cheerful as possible. The welfare of her children, the sick and unfortunate, engaged her thoughts more than her own health. Her active mind was ever alert to do something for others. Her interest in current events was as keen as though she was mingling among them and a factor in them.

Very Active Mind.

Daily, when she was unable to read herself, the papers were read to her and she was in close touch with everything of importance that transpired. Her bible was a source of unfailing comfort and from it she gathered inspiration to continue shedding fragrance and cheer to all with whom she came in contact. It seemed as though suffering only made the flame of her spirit glow brighter and enabled her by a self sacrificing life to teach without words the true secret of happiness.



Gives Up Struggle.

Last Tuesday morning her only surviving sister, Mrs. C. E. Cunningham, whose daily duty it was to read to her, came to the home for that purpose. Mrs. Coddington had taken great interest in the preparations for Alice Roosevelt's marriage.

"Shall I read to you about the wedding" gently asked the sister of the invalid.

"No, I don't think I care to hear it," was the reply. This little incident marked the beginning of the end, the loss of grasp and interest in wordly matters. From then on she declined. With the superb will no longer acting, there was a yearning for release and telegrams were sent to the children. They came hurrying from all parts. All were present at the last save Mrs. P. B. Linn of this city, who is recovering from a recent injury by a street car. The last to reach her bedside was her son, "Dick," from Memphis, Tenn., Saturday morning.

Surviving Relatives.

Mrs. Coddington was the mother of ten children. Six survive as follows: Mrs. Oscar Robertson, Bloomington; Mrs. P. B. Linn, Mattoon; Mrs. James Lytle, Topeka, Kan.; C. D. Coddington, Memphis, Tenn.; Miss Nellie Coddington, Mattoon; Mrs. Walter Fye, Mattoon. Mrs. S. E. Cunningham of Mattoon, sister; B. C. Hinkle, Shawnee, Ok., and Dr. James R. Hinkle, Sullivan, Ind., brothers, survive. Both brothers are older than the deceased, while Mrs. Cunningham is the youngest. Fourteen grandchildren mourn the loss of a dearly loved grandmother.

The funeral will be held from the late residence at 2 p. m. Monday, Rev. Dr. Smith officiating. Burial in Dodge Grove.

REV. NATHAN HENKLE.

REV. NATHAN HENKLE was born in North Carolina, December 28, 1799. In 1808 he moved to Jefferson county, Kentucky, where he grew to manhood. In 1819 he moved to Sullivan county, Indiana, where he remained until May, 1865, when he came to Mattoon: here, February 25th, he gently fell asleep in Jesus. On January 21, 1825, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Reid, of Jefferson county, Kentucky, who died in Sullivan county, Indiana, September 16, 1863. He was converted and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1815, under the labors of Rev. James Ward, of Kentucky; was licensed to preach in 1832, ordained deacon in 1844, and elder in 1852, in Bloomington, Indiana, by Bishop Waugh. These privileges and offices were not conferred upon him in vain. He was a consistent and faithful member of the Church, and a zealous and efficient minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When duty called he was ready to go. To be and to do right were the governing principles of his life: He never seemed to confer with flesh and blood, but being quick to apprehend the right, he efficiently and boldly went forth in its path.

He did not seem satisfied to remain where the Gospel was regularly preached, societies formed, and the people walking in the commandments of the Lord; but his great delight was to press out into the regions beyond, and where Christ was not named, there to lift up his voice like a trumpet, and show the people their sins, and invite them to the "fountain filled with blood." Wherever he went the old and young felt that he was "a man of God." Being clear in thought, ardent in love, ready in utterance, and efficient in his appeals to dying men, many were led to the Cross; God was honored in the salvation of souls; Churches were formed, and the desert was made to "blossom as the rose." Doubtless scores from Indiana and from Illinois, as they greet him on the eternal shore, will call him blessed, and thank God that he was here called to the work of the ministry.

As he lived so he died, hoping and trusting in the Lord. About ten months previous to his death he became the subject of a severe stroke of paralysis, under which he became nearly helpless and a great sufferer until he was released by death.

During these months of affliction his faith was greatly tried, but it did not fail. The tendrils of his heart had so long been growing around the Cross, that he was prepared for the storm, and to its close his hope remained sure and steadfast. About forty-eight hours before his death he lost all conscious connection with the objects of sense, and in that state he sank slowly and calmly down into death;

"Gladly he closed his eyes to earth
To open them in heaven."

He has gone home, but he has left to his children a heritage of prayer, of holy counsels and Christian example, worth more than all the treasures of earth. May its fruits be their salvation here and their glorification hereafter!

JOHN EVERLY.

Mattoon, Ill., April 12, 1870.

Family Record

of WENDELL HINKLE

Anthony Hinkle	Grandfather, dates unknown
Wendell Hinkle	Born Mar. 17, 1755, Died July 11, 1838
Married	
Elizabeth Fox	Born Nov. 30, 1762, Died Feb. 12, 1849
PARENTS OF	
Mary Magdalene Hinkle	Born Jan. 3, 1785, Died Sept. 13, 1844
Married	
Jesse Beck	Born March 14, 1786, Died Nov. 5, 1867
Phillip Hinkle	Born June 15, 1786, Died Oct 5, 1865
Married	
Martha Reid	Born Oct. 11, 1789, Died Feb. 3, 1874
Anthony Hinkle	Born about 1788, Died about 1806
John W. Hinkle	Born Feb. 14, 1791, Died Nov. 6, 1858
Married	
Elizabeth Newkirk	Born July 28, 1800, Died Apr. 17, 1881
Amelia Hinkle	Born May 1, 1793, Died Oct. 7, 1868
Married	
James Mayfield	Born Mar. 28, 1794, Died Sept. 23, 1855
Elizabeth Hinkle	Born Mar. 1796, Died Aug. 1854
Married	
Thomas Robins	Born 1791, Died 1863
Margaret Hinkle	Born Sept. 15, 1797. Died Apr or M 1840
Married	
Samuel Miller	Born 1800, Died 1869
Nathan Hinkle	Born Dec. 28, 1799, Died Feb. 25, 1870
Married	
Betesia Reid	Born July 8, 1800, Died Sept. 16, 1862
Susan Hinkle	Born Sept. 25, 1802, Died Sept. 11, 1897
Married	
Elisha Bedwell	Born Feb. 18, 1799, Died Sept. 5, 1838
Married	
R. Davidson	
Sarah Hinkle	Born Jan. 5, 1805, Died July 30, 1887
Married	
James Harvey	Born May 10, 1800, Died Feb, 23, 1875
Martha Hinkle	Born Jan. 5, 1805, Died Jan. 5, 1880
Married	
Jas. S. Reid	Born July 22, 1802, Died Feb. 28, 1883
Katharine Hinkle	Born Sept. 15, 1807. Died Apr. 4, 1835
Married	
John Miller	Born Sept. 20, 1801, Died Nov. 30, 1875
Child	Died in infancy

Benson C Hinkle Son of F